

Dec 31, 1950

For the period October 1, 1950 through December 31, 1950.

## SCREWWORM SURVEYS IN THE SOUTHEASTERN STATES

W. G. Bruce, A. L. Smith, and C. C. Skipper

Screwworm activity continued unabated throughout the entire southeastern area until November 24 when severe cold weather enveloped the Southeast to as far south as north central Florida. Cold weather persisted until the end of 1950 during which time no screwworm activity was reported outside of Florida.

Prior to the cold wave, which began on November 24, screwworms were widely distributed in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina, about one-half of Tennessee, and in a small area in southern Virginia. Every wound in livestock appeared to become infested. However, losses of livestock due to screwworm attack were negligible due to the prompt treatment of infestations. Supplies of screwworm remedies were adequate and stockmen, after their experiences in 1949, were on the alert to examine their cattle frequently and to treat all infestations. Screwworm cases were especially numerous in Florida, most of which were predisposed by the bites of the Gulf Coast tick on navels of new-born calves. In some herds infestations were as high as 100 percent in calves.

Surveys were made to determine the northern limit of the screwworm infested area of the Southeast. Roughly this northern boundary extended from southeastern Virginia, southwest through southeastern and southcentral Tennessee, and northern Mississippi. A few scattered cases were found in Kentucky. Infestations found in these northern-most states were as follows:

### West Virginia

One case reported which was in a bull which arrived with a rodeo from another state. It was promptly treated by a veterinarian and no further cases developed.

### Virginia

Infestations ranging from a few scattered cases to about 1 percent or less of the livestock were found in the counties of Southampton, Sussex, Greensville, Dinwiddie, Amelia, Nottoway, Brunswick, Mecklinburg, Lunenburg, Prince Edward, Charlotte, Halifax, Pittsylvania, and Henry.





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